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Public Health
Wales

Name of Meeting
Quality, Safety and
Improvement Committee
Date of Meeting
15th February 2023
Agenda item:
4.6

Emergency Planning and Business Continuity Welsh Government Emergency Planning Report 2022

Executive lead:	Meng Khaw, National Director of Health Protection and Screening Services and Medical Director (Executive Lead for Emergency Planning and Business Continuity)
Author:	Andrew Jones, Deputy Director of Health Protection and Screening Services; Daniel Rixon, Interim Senior Emergency Planning Officer

Approval/Scrutiny route:	Quality, Safety and Improvement Committee
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Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to:

- Provide **assurance** to the Quality, Safety and Improvement Committee on the activities undertaken by the organisation to discharge its duties under the Civil Contingencies Act [2004].
- Inform the Quality, Safety and Improvement Committee of the Health Emergency Planning Annual Report submission to the Welsh Government, and to provide assurance in relation to the organisation's level of emergency preparedness.

Recommendation:

APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/>	CONSIDER <input type="checkbox"/>	RECOMMEND <input type="checkbox"/>	ADOPT <input type="checkbox"/>	ASSURANCE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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It is recommended that the Quality, Safety and Improvement Committee:

- Receives assurance in relation to the organisations compliance with the requirements of the Civil Contingencies Act [2004] and the NHS Wales Emergency Planning Core Guidance [2015].

Link to Public Health Wales [Strategic Plan](#)

Public Health Wales has an agreed strategic plan, which has identified seven strategic priorities and well-being objectives.

This report contributes to the following:

Strategic Priority/Well-being Objective	5 - Protecting the public from infection and environmental threats to health
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Summary impact analysis

Equality and Health Impact Assessment	An Equality or Health Impact Assessment has not been undertaken.
Risk and Assurance	The National Security Risk Assessment is published by the Cabinet Office and informs all emergency planning and business continuity work.
Health and Care Standards	This report supports and/or takes into account the Health and Care Standards for NHS Wales Quality Themes Theme 2 - Safe Care Specifically, the work plan ensures compliance with the requirements of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and supporting guidance
Financial implications	There are no financial implications
People implications	There are no people implications

1. Purpose / situation

The purpose of this paper is to inform the Quality, Safety and Improvement Committee of the Health Emergency Planning Annual Report submission to the Welsh Government, and to provide assurance in relation to the organisation's level of emergency preparedness.

2. Background

As a Category 1 responder under the Civil Contingencies Act [2004], Public Health Wales is required to undertake the following civil protection duties:

- 1.** Assess the risk of emergencies occurring and use this to inform contingency planning
- 2.** Put in place emergency plans
- 3.** Put in place business continuity management arrangements
- 4.** Put in place arrangements to make information available to the public about civil protection matters and maintain arrangements to warn, inform and advise the public in the event of an emergency
- 5.** Share information with other local responders to enhance co-ordination
- 6.** Cooperate with other local responders to enhance co-ordination and efficiency

The Health Emergency Planning Annual Report seeks to assure Welsh Government that NHS Wales is fulfilling the above civil protection duties as well as requirements set out in the NHS Wales Emergency Planning Core Guidance [2015].

As noted in the Health Emergency Planning Annual Report, the Public Health Wales (PHW) Emergency Response Plan was formally approved by the PHW Board in September 2018 and updated as an Interim Working Draft in February 2022.

As part of the workplan for 2022/23, the Emergency Preparedness, Resilience & Response (EPRR) Team have committed to delivering a comprehensive review of the document to ensure that PHW continues to meet its statutory obligations under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (CCA) in maintaining an Emergency Response Plan which is fit for purpose.

Initial timelines established for the delivery of the updated Emergency Response Plan have required revision due to resilience assurance activity associated with ongoing NHS industrial action and further extensive work required to support PHW preparation for the Covid Inquiry.

In the revised timeline, the updated Emergency Response Plan will be presented to Business Executive Team on 2nd May, QSIC on 16th May and Board on 25th May 2023.

3. Description/Assessment

The Health Emergency Planning Annual Report is used for year-on-year comparisons of preparedness to respond to an emergency and manage recovery against the requirements set out in the NHS Wales Emergency Planning Core Guidance [2015].

All NHS Health Boards and Trusts in Wales, as required to submit the Health Emergency Planning Annual Report annual to the Welsh Government.

The Health Emergency Planning Annual Report for 2022 was approved by the Business Executive Team and submitted to the Welsh Government on the 10.02.23.

4. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Quality, Safety and Improvement Committee:

- **Notes** the organisation's submission to Welsh Government of the Health Emergency Planning Annual Report and
- Receives **assurance** in relation to the organisation's level of emergency preparedness.